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5 July 1988

MEMORANDUM FOR: VC/NIC, NIO/ECON, D/AG
FROM: C/NIC
SUBJECT: A Consumers' Guide to Intelligence for the 1989 Transition?

A couple of weeks ago, I suggested to the DCI that we prepare in report and/or briefing form a guide to new intelligence consumers on how to understand and make use of the Community more effectively. The recommendation arose from my repeated exposure to the fact that most policymaking consumers understand and use intelligence poorly, even after long experience in government.

I was recently reminded that we tried this before. Attached is a consumers' guide to intelligence prepared in 1977 by Bill Parmenter for the incoming Carter Administration. It seems like a good and useful product to me, but I don't recall whether it did any good at the time.

Would you please review this report and get back to me with responses on the following?

How good is the report (mechanical obsolescence aside) as a model for a current version?

Do you recall it having any impact in 1977?

What would it take to produce a revised version?

Should we consider additional media for transmission, e.g., briefings, videotape, a series of tutorials in the NID?

Please let me have an oral or written response by 20 July.


Fritz W. Ermarth

Attachment:
As stated

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